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## The Maine Action no. 4 (March 10, 1976)

Maine League of Women Voters Staff

*Maine League of Women Voters*

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# THE MAINE ACTION

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A LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER FOR THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MAINE

Issue #4

March 10, 1976

Editor: Elaine Goodwin, State Legislative Action Chrm.  
Pond Road, Manchester, Maine 04351

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## Environmental Quality

Barbara Alexander reports that LD 2136 will be reported out of committee "ought to pass." The League opposes this bill because it grants industries another 8 months' extension to comply with standards of water quality. Present legislation allows industries with peculiar problems to appeal to the BEP for extension; and the BEP can be selective in prosecuting offenders. The proposed amendment would grant everyone an extension. The committee did change the proposed wording from "variances shall be granted" to "variances may be granted." ! Now is the time to write legislators about this.

See next week's Newsletter for more information about the solid waste bills - 2248, 2249, 2250. The League would like to see more source reduction consideration than they provide.

## Publications

State LWV Publications Chairman Dorothy MacLean reports that new reprints of "How to Make Your Voice Heard at the State House" are available, as well as others related to Maine government. For more information, write her at 30 Phillips Road, South Portland 04105.

PAK Public Action Kit "Everything you always wanted to know about political action -- and didn't know who to ask" Nine brochures describing "tools of the trade for effective lobbying". Available for \$3.00 from League of Women Voters of the U.S., 1730 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036 PAK #629.

## Progress Report

Both Houses have requested all standing committees to report out all bills by March 19. Hopefully the session can be wound up rather quickly after that, though there is still mention of it lasting until mid-April, with another short session in the fall. They still have to grapple with raises for state employees and funding for the University. The LWV State Board met on March 9 and expressed its displeasure over the shortness of time between announcement of hearing dates and the date itself - sometimes only 2 or 3 days. Now that education funding is not on the calendar, they may improve.

A future issue will contain summary of education funding bill.



BILLS OF INTERESTDispositionENVIRONMENT

2013	Kennebec Greenbelt Bill	Dead this session
2096	Act to Clarify Provisions of Water Pollution Statutes	LWV opposed. Bill withdrawn
2136	Act to allow BEP to grant limited variances	LWV opposes - in committee time to write
2246	Act Authorizing Exchange of Certain Public Reserved Lands	Hearing March 2
2248	Act to Improve Solid Waste Management in State	Hearing March 9 LWV could
2249	Act to Improve Solid Waste Management	" " not
2250	Act to provide Funding for Action on Solid Waste & Litter	" " support these

HUMAN RESOURCES

2219	Equal Rights Omnibus Bill	LWV supported Hearing March 3
2190	Act Creating Maine Commission for Women	Withdrawn
2091	Act concern Unexpended Balance and Payment Maximums for AFDC program	League supports - in committee
2252	Act to require an annual adjustment in Standard of Need for AFDC families	Hearing not yet set
2260	To Establish Maine Community Jobs Act.	Hearing not yet set
2196	Act to revise laws relating to Funding of Public Schools	Passed - over Governor's veto

RIGHT TO KNOW

2092	Clarification of Right to Know	LWV supports - in Committee
168	Definition of Public Proceedings and keeping minutes	LWV supports - in Committee
954	Lobby Disclosure	LWV supports - in Committee

STATE GOVERNMENT

197	To Redistribute Powers of Executive Council	Hearing over
2251	Act to Enable Counties to Hire Administrators	Hearing March 10
2253	Act to Change County Budgets to Annual Basis	" "
2275	Act to give Counties Power to Assess and Collect own taxes	" "
2241	Act to Increase Excise Tax on Motor Vehicles according to Base consumption	Hearing by Energy Committee on March 3